



# Pedro Nava

Assemblymember

REPRESENTING ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 35



[www.assembly.ca.gov/nava](http://www.assembly.ca.gov/nava)

MAY 2008

## Assemblymember Pedro Nava Introduces Resolution Calling on Social Networking Sites to Combat Proliferation of Violent & Inappropriate Online Content

**Sacramento-**Assemblymember Nava introduced ACR 106, requesting that social networking and video sites combat the proliferation of violent, criminal and inappropriate content and limit access by children. The resolution also calls on the Governor to create a task force to address how to combat the proliferation of violent and inappropriate internet content.

"The internet and the growth of social networking web sites have brought many benefits to our country and the world," said Nava. "But when the internet is used as a tool to spread violent, graphic and criminal content that children can access, that is unacceptable and can't be tolerated."

Recently, attorney generals from 49 states, including California, signed a landmark agreement with social networking site MySpace to create an Internet Safety Technical Task Force to find effective ways to better protect children who use social networking sites.

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*ACR 106 calls on social networking sites to protect our children from violent online content.*

## Assemblymember Nava Participates in Juvenile Justice Policy Summit Along with Attorney General Jerry Brown

**Attends Ventura City Corps Grand Opening and cites it as an example of a successful juvenile prevention and intervention program for our communities.**

**Ventura/Los Angeles-** Last month, Assemblymember Nava moderated a key panel on the challenges of the Juvenile Justice system in California at a statewide policy summit on juvenile justice. Also participating were public safety officials, government agencies, community organizations, education officials, and legislators.

"This is an issue that demands our immediate attention. Youth offenders come into the system with enormous challenges and we have to be sure that our social and governmental institutions understand and are prepared to make things better," stated Nava.

Attorney General Jerry Brown participated during a lunchtime discussion and reiterated his support of our communities and effective prevention, intervention, and enforcement initiatives.

A successful example of a local program that has changed the lives of many Ventura County youths is the Oxnard City Corps, a program that has evolved into the City Corps of the Central Coast, opening its doors in April to its new Ventura headquarters.



*Attorney General Jerry Brown discusses his commitment to juvenile prevention programs along with Assemblymember Nava (left).*

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Thousands of violent videos and inappropriate content for children are accessible via social networking sites. Violent and graphic content on many sites can be accessed very easily by anyone, including children.

In April of this year a Florida youth was the subject of a vicious beating by other youths with the intent to post the video on-line. In March, a Salinas youth was murdered after a video hit list was posted on YouTube. The video was not removed until the Monterey County Herald reporter that wrote a story about the murder, contacted YouTube. Additionally, many sexual predators use the internet in an attempt to lure young victims.

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City Corps youth complete hundreds of community and environmentally friendly projects and young people learn personal initiative, leadership development, and civic responsibility.

Assemblymember Nava congratulated the Ventura City Corps with a Certificate of Recognition in honor of the grand opening and the beginning of a new era for City Corps in Ventura.

"Programs like City Corps, that have changed the course of the lives of our youth and our future, really put into practice the themes of the Juvenile Justice Summit that I attended," said Nava. "Young people need our patience, our guidance, and the opportunity to succeed, while our communities need them to become responsible citizens and flourish."



*Assemblymember Nava presents Ventura City Corps with a proclamation in honor of the grand opening of their Ventura headquarters.*

## **Assemblymember Nava Leads Assembly Banking and Finance Committee**

**Nava aims to make California a leader in consumer privacy protection, mortgage lending reform, and financial literacy.**

**Sacramento** – Assemblymember Nava was recently appointed to serve as Chair of the Assembly Committee on Banking and Finance. The Banking Committee has jurisdiction over a multitude of financial matters across the state, from consumer protections in financial transactions, to ensuring that the financial marketplace is open and efficient.

"This is a rare opportunity to engage in an issue area that dictates every aspect of our daily lives," said Nava. "The foreclosure crisis continues to be one of the top issues facing the committee. The legislature has already acted on several important measures intended to reform the mortgage lending process, and in the coming months I will continue to take action on this issue."



*The Assembly Banking and Finance Committee will examine legislation to keep families in their homes.*

Furthermore, ensuring that those persons on the financial margins of our society are included in the financial mainstream is extremely important in a market place that continues to get more global and complex. Additionally, the majority of our consumer protection laws are disclosure based, so expanding financial literacy is vital.

Assemblymember Nava will also be working on policies to encourage banks, private equity and other financial sectors to get involved in green projects. Within this frame-work, several financial institutions have started looking for ways to use their financial power to assist and encourage sustainability to ensure that homeowners have access to additional financing tools to make their homes more energy efficient.

## Azriel Kurlaender, 35<sup>th</sup> District Holocaust Survivor is Honored for his Commitment to Our Community

**Sacramento-** On April 28, 2008, Assemblymember Pedro Nava honored Mr. Azriel Kurlaender in the Chambers of the California State Assembly in a tribute to Survivors of the Holocaust.

California Holocaust Memorial Week recognizes Holocaust survivors in the state and gives remembrance to the millions who lost their lives at the hands of the Nazi Regime. Every year there are fewer Holocaust survivors to tell their stories. Collecting the stories of the survivors passes on the knowledge of events of the Holocaust to future generations. Transferring this knowledge ensures that the realities of the Holocaust's horrors are never forgotten and never reoccur.

Mr. Kurlaender was selected by Assemblymember Nava for his selfless and courageous sharing of his life's story to further a cause that is vital to our future and our children's future. He was one of 50 orphans to have survived the Auschwitz concentration camp. Azriel's great wish that mankind learn from its egregious mistakes is a wish for all future generations that they may live in freedom and harmony.



*Holocaust Survivor and resident of the 35<sup>th</sup> District  
Azriel Kurlaender with Assemblymember Nava on the  
Assembly floor.*

"It is a great privilege for me to honor Azriel Kurlaender for his work in sharing and preserving his story for future generations," said Assemblymember Pedro Nava. "We must never forget the horrors that can come to pass if we are not vigilant. The way to do this is to be good stewards of history and by preserving every person's story. It takes great courage to share these stories and I commend him for his bravery."

In addition to the ceremony, the California State Assembly produces a book of essays each year with the stories that have been collected across the state. Copies of this book will be available in our district offices.

## Resolution Calling for Increased Protection for California Gray Whale Passes Assembly on Bi-partisan Vote

**Sacramento-** Assemblymember Nava's Joint Resolution 49 calling for further protections of the California Gray Whale passed the State Assembly on a bi-partisan 51 to 10 vote on April 24.

"I am pleased that my colleagues in the Assembly have joined me in asking Congress, the President, and the California Fish and Game Commission to take immediate action to protect the California Gray Whale," said Nava. "This magnificent marine mammal is in danger and it is imperative that we act to provide it with as much protection as possible so that it will be here for future generations."



This measure requests that the United States Congress and the President call upon the National Marine Fisheries Service to undertake an immediate and comprehensive assessment of the Gray Whale, and asks the California Fish and Game Commission to change the status of the Gray Whale to endangered. An endangered status will provide comprehensive protections for the whale.

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The California Gray Whale was placed on the endangered and threatened species list, but was removed in 1994 after its population appeared to have recovered. However, a major collapse of the species occurred in 2000, eliminating up to a third of the species. Threats to the gray whale's survival include climate change, oil and gas exploration, military and non-military sonar, liquefied natural gas terminals planned along the whale's migration route, bottom trawling, pollution, and other changes in ocean conditions.

"California's coastline and the marine environment are precious and need to be protected for our children and grandchildren. This resolution will send a strong message to Congress and the President that we need to take action now to save the Gray Whale," said Nava.

## Preview: Nava Selects SBparent.com as the District's Small Business of the Year

**Sacramento-** Assemblymember Nava chose SBparent.com as his 35th District Small Business of the Year. Rachael Ross Steidl started the website after giving birth to twins and exerting much time and effort connecting with resources for parents. She has been honored in Sacramento at the 2008 California Small Business Day this month. Look for details and photos in the June 2008 E-News.



*The home screen of SBparent.com welcomes and orients parents to a wealth of resources. Rachael has recently expanded the site to include resources for cities such as Ventura.*

### District Offices:

- 101 W. Anapamu, Ste A, Santa Barbara, CA 93101 Phone: (805) 564-1649 • Fax: (805) 564-1651
- 201 E. Fourth Street, Ste 209-A, Oxnard, CA 93030 Phone: (805) 483-9808 • Fax: (805) 483-8182

**Capitol Office:** P.O. Box 942849, Sacramento, CA 94249-0035 Phone: (916) 319-2035 • Fax: (916) 319-2135